

The Evening Times

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1901.
Publication Office,
THE HUTCHINS BUILDING,
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

Subscription by Mail—One Year:
MORNING, EVENING AND SUNDAY.....\$6.00
MORNING AND SUNDAY.....4.00
EVENING AND SUNDAY.....4.00
SUNDAY ONLY.....1.00

Monthly by Carrier:
MORNING, EVENING AND SUNDAY.....Fifty cents
MORNING AND SUNDAY.....Thirty-five cents
EVENING AND SUNDAY.....Thirty-five cents

Circulation Statement.
The circulation of The Times for the week ended March 9, 1901, was as follows:
Sunday, March 3.....21,187
Monday, March 4.....42,423
Tuesday, March 5.....54,118
Wednesday, March 6.....50,328
Thursday, March 7.....39,848
Friday, March 8.....39,406
Saturday, March 9.....39,972
Total.....280,281
Daily average (Sunday, 34,187, excepted).....42,682

A Concert Out of Tune.
In the language of Gilbert, it would appear that, concerning the Chinese question, "everything is either at sixes or at sevens." Unless we are justified in looking for a miracle, the chances for a peaceful settlement at Peking, on the basis of reasonable indemnity and the territorial integrity of the Chinese Empire, appear very slim. How long the other Powers will allow Russia to "run with the hares, and hunt with the hounds," is a question not presently answerable, but, if the day's indications point for anything, the time cannot be distant when either Russia must recede from her present stand in relation to Manchuria, or the Concert must fall to pieces.

For our own part, we can see no reason for expecting a Russian face. Russia has too carefully thought out and planned her coup, is too completely in the saddle, and has too well counted the cost and gains, for anything of that kind to happen. Russia is securely aware that Great Britain is helpless to stop her march of empire to the Gulf of Pechili. The one Power from whom active hostility might be expected is Japan, and Japan, in spite of all talk of war preparations, probably will think twice before assailing Russia single-handed.

As for Germany, apparently there is fresh evidence that, whatever the Kaiser's Government may think of the Russian game, it will not interfere, but, on the contrary, will accept the occupation of Manchuria as an fait accompli, and endeavor to turn the situation as much as possible to German advantage. Such a policy, we think, may be deduced from the new vigor of the German attitude toward China, and from reports, which seem credible, that Germany will insist upon an enormous indemnity, and immediate payment. No one pretends to believe that the Chinese Government, no matter how much it might be disposed to comply with such a demand, could do so in existing circumstances. Failure to meet the German terms could hardly have but one result. In default of cash, the Kaiser no doubt would proceed with his customary promptness to levy on China's real estate, and take as much of it as would counterbalance the advantages realized by the Czar.

Germany, too, is represented as insisting upon heavy damages, and there are likely to be compounded in land. Austria, Italy, and Holland appear to be acting with Germany. Great Britain will be forced to join in the game of grab or find herself badly out in the cold at the end. Japan, we have explained before, could be placated with Korea, but, unfortunately, Russia wants that, too.

Where does the United States come in? After a great deal of pious asseveration on the part of the Administration, that it does not and cannot doubt the entire disinterestedness and philanthropy of the Russian course in Manchuria, there are interesting signs to show that it is seriously troubled by doubts on the subject. Such provisions of the Russo-Chinese secret compact as have leaked out from Chinese sources, show that, although on its face the convention undertakes the return of Manchuria to China, the conditions of that return are of such a nature that the latter might as well cede the region out and out. In effect, Manchuria is made a Russian dependent State, like the semi-independent native States of India, very thoroughly under Russian military occupation and civil supervision, with a Russian chief official in control, who will be vicerey in all but title.

Secretary Hay continues to prod Commissioner Rockhill with instructions to protest and war against punishment of Chinese officials responsible for the torture and murder of our missionaries, and to press for a redemptive demand for indemnity. It all amounts to a play on the American gallery. The United States has cut the throat of whatever influence it started with in the family of nations interested in China, and its voice, which is loud out of all proportion to its part in the Concert, pipes vehemently for the peace and harmony which it joined with Russia in knocking on the head, in the Russo-American cut and settle.

The ultimate settlement will not be dictated from Washington. Indeed there may be cause to fear that there will be no settlement. All the Powers—this one excepted—may be changing their minds on the principle of partition, and then straight way fall to quarreling over the division. It is not impossible, as far as one can judge at this time, that a world war may be the outcome of the situation before many months—perhaps weeks.

Overworked Rhetoric.

The "New York Mail and Express" suggests that there is such a thing as overworking a useful phrase on the stage, and that there are one or two in use now which deserve a vacation. As an example it cites the remark of the heroine in a certain romantic melodrama, now having its vogue. The hero comes in with a bandage around his arm, and she exclaims:

"My God, you are wounded!"

And the hero replies in the lofty manner proper for use on such occasions:

"A mere scratch!"

The "Mail and Express" contends that it is time for both these phrases to be retired; that "a mere scratch" was found in "To Have and to Hold" and "Janie Meredith," and a dozen previous plays, and that if every hero is to be scratched, as a matter of form, it is not necessary to express it in those words.

This is a good suggestion, and should be adopted. There are times when a rose by some other name smells a good deal sweeter, and a scratch by some other and less overworked name would certainly seem more realistic. As a rule, in real life, when a man has been carved up by his enemy, he does not make pretty speeches about it, nor does his lady love waste any rhetoric on the occasion. If she is weak-minded she faints or goes into hysterics; if she is sensible she goes about the task of attending to the wound.

The suggestion of the "Mail and Express" might be carried still further, and mock heroes be banished for a season. It is, of course, considerably easier to do this kind of acting than some other kind.

When a very ordinary man is dressed out in velvet and lace and a broad-brimmed, plumed hat with a rhinestone buckle, and a tin sword on an ornamental sword belt, and a curled wig draping his head and shoulders, he is bound to look romantic, whether he does any acting or not; and that is one reason why the glamour of the cavaliers has worn so well through all the generations, despite their lack of any really admirable traits of character to make them superior to other men. They were pleasant to look at. Moreover, when a man dressed up in all those trinkets really is brave and wise, his courage and ability seem all the more remarkable and picturesque when contrasted with the feckery of his attire. For all these reasons the mock heroic drama has held its own on the stage just as it did in real life. But it is not a good test of real worth, in either place. The genuine actor shows his ability when he comes on the stage in an ordinary business suit of clothes, or the unpicturesque garb of a farmer, and makes his audience laugh, cry, or thrill with admiration. If he can say a thing in a perfectly natural way—something which would naturally be said by the average person in a like situation—and yet put enough of the real dramatic fire, the nameless, indescribable quality which we call genius, personal magnetism, or what not, into his tone and manner to hold his audience spellbound, then he is really a fine actor. But when he produces his effect with mere catch words and sumptuous costumes, he is no more an actor than he is a cinematograph.

There is only one place in which the same old phrases and speeches can be used year after year, decade after decade, generation after generation, and produce precisely the same effect every time, and that place is the circus. The circus clown is the same old painted buffoon whom we saw in our childhood, and he relieves himself of the same old jokes, and we like them and laugh at them. But that is because we are all children when we go to the circus, and, like children, want the same old story told in just the same way.

The Mormon Veto.
From a strictly local point of view the Mormon Governor of Utah has done a remarkably sensible thing in vetoing the bill recently passed by the State Legislature, providing indirectly for non-interference with polygamous family relations.

In the message, explaining his objections, the Governor reminds the lawmakers that he himself is the offspring of a plural marriage, and would be only too glad of a chance to protect and favor those whose marital condition exposes them to statutory pains and penalties. But, he also says, in effect, that of two evils it is better to choose the lesser, and to sign the bill before him, the inevitable consequence would be that a constitutional amendment which would place a majority of the older citizens of Utah under the ban of national law.

It is probable that it required some courage to take the course adopted by Governor Wells. The law in question was passed in both houses of the Legislature in a way suggestive of powerful hierarchical influence behind it. Possibly the higher Mormon leaders may now see the folly of enacting a law which would bring down Federal vengeance on their heads before it had taken on the books two years. Otherwise the Hon. Heber M. Wells must be in more than a little hot water; but that is the sole concern of himself and his spiritual overlords.

A constitutional amendment prohibiting polygamy is not made hopeless by the present action of polygamy. If the people of the United States are agreed that plural marriages are obnoxious to Anglo-Saxon concepts of the social order, and are a menace to the monogamic family, the cornerstone of modern civilization, they should see to it that the next Congress takes the necessary steps to lay the matter before the State Legislatures without any delay whatever.

It must be remembered that Mormonism, with incidental polygamy or the probability of it, is not isolated within the confines of Utah. It is spreading and flourishing in Colorado, Arizona, Idaho, and perhaps other contiguous regions. Considered as a religious sect, alone, there is no earthly reason why the Mormons should be oppressed or interfered with. It is their pet institution from which arises danger, and which needs cutting off immediately behind the ears. This can be accomplished only through a constitutional amendment, and the sooner one is adopted, the better it will be for the country.

There is a justice of the peace in Pennsylvania who deserves a banquet and a monument. The other day a wife-beater accompanied by his bruised and disfigured helpmate, was haled before the "Squire." The brute laughed in the face of justice and called the magistrate upon the honor and harmony which it joined with Russia in knocking on the head, in the Russo-American cut and settle.

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LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

Wenceslao Borda, member of the Porto Rican Commission now in Washington protesting against the enforcement of the Hollander law, passed during the last few minutes of the session of the Porto Rican Legislature, is of the opinion that the United States has spoiled Porto Rico, by what he terms ill-advised charity.

"Labor conditions in Porto Rico," he said today at the Arlington, "are in a deplorably bad plight. You need no more evidence of the fact that Porto Rico is not a good nor profitable place to live in than the fact that the laborer is emigrating from it. Before the war, and before the United States had taken possession of the island it was extremely difficult to get sufficient laborers to take care of the coffee crop. Much of the crop went to waste, because it could not be harvested. Instead of having labor at a premium now, it is at a discount. There is nothing for the laborers to do. They are starving and are going where they can get both money and food."

The trouble arose over the distribution of provisions by the United States Government. The natives are not thrifty, but they will work when they are obliged to. When they found that they were being fed and that they could get provisions by simply asking for them they ceased to look out for the future, and did no work. The small plots of ground remained untilled, the usual yearly crop of yams was not put in and everything went to pieces.

"Now nearly every man is an idler. Planters were not able to get laborers as fast as the United States would feed the natives. Consequently the plantations are not growing crops, and the island is rapidly getting into a very bad condition. People are starving, and are blaming the United States."

"Now comes the Hollander law which says that if a man cannot pay his taxes after they have been due for six months, he shall lose his land. That really means, after the present conditions, that all the small land owners will have to lose their holdings on account of taxes, and that they consider it a very bad thing. For this reason the people of Porto Rico are indulging in riots."

Whatever may be the cost, the Post-office Department needs nothing which is not the best. First-class is the motto in all equipments, and now the latest thing is a steel letter box. It was not so long ago that cities and towns were glad enough to have a wooden letter box. Then the department put out cast-iron boxes at the corners, and later supplied them at important points by large sheet iron newspaper receptacles. The cast iron boxes were covered with advertisements not to deface or break, on penalty of heavy fines, and the officials of the department say, very few were ever damaged.

It seems now, however, that the cast iron boxes are too clumsy, and not sufficiently strong. Recently bids for boxes were advertised, and the department received the time of the advertising and the opening of the bids, which took place a few days ago, the department learned of the excellence of steel boxes. On awarding the contracts, all bids on cast iron boxes were thrown aside and new bids on steel ones will be advertised for.

"The old steel box is out of date," said Superintendent Joseph M. Morgan of the Free Delivery Department, today. "We decided that it was too heavy and too bulky and thought that in view of the greater strength, the greater lightness, and the greater beauty of the steel box, we might just as well make the change with these new contracts. The specifications of the new box are not yet decided upon. It will, however, be much lighter, and though perhaps no less expensive will afford a saving through the smaller amount of freight we will have to pay on when shipments are made."

Thomas Herran, Secretary of the Colombian Legation and formerly consul at Medellin in the State of Antioquia, has a wide acquaintance in this city, formed partly when he was here as a student in Georgetown University, from which institution he graduated in 1883. He has recently been ill, and has been recovering by his old friends in the University Hospital. Though not completely recovered from his illness he has taken up his quarters at the St. James Hotel, where he talked today interestingly upon the subject of Colombia, and the conditions existing there.

"The revolution in Colombia, at the head of which was General Uribe," said he, "is now practically broken. Uribe's adherents are dispersed and have been driven to the hills where they exist only as brigands. Because of the recent revolution, which was the most extensive that Colombia has ever suffered, the country is in a state of collapse. The fighting cost the lives of at least 40,000 men, and kept the entire population of the country from doing any work. The result was an utter stagnation in all lines of business. All steamboats, all railroads, and in fact everything possible, was pressed into military service. The country will have to begin anew."

Among scientific men Mr. Herran is known chiefly because of his gifts to the Smithsonian Institution. He has a lean, thin, and somewhat hunched figure, and is dressed in the remains of the Indian village of his country. This resulted in his making a fine collection of trinkets, tools, and specimens of pottery, implements and other relics, which he sent to Professor Baird. Professor Baird recommended that Mr. Herran be allowed funds from the Institution with which to further prosecute his work. "Most of the relics," Mr. Herran said, "are recovered from the graves of chiefs and native Indians dig in the old burying grounds and buried in the remains of their finds, which are sometimes of extreme value to the anthropologist. It is hard to tell how the gold ornaments from the melting pot, for the Indians know only of the value of the metal."

Mr. Herran's first visit to the United States was during the war, and he was accompanied by his father, Pedro Alcantara Herran, was Minister to the United States from the Colombian Republic. He was a great figure in Colombian history, having been President of the country from 1889 to 1894. In addition to his country's general, whose service in the behalf of the independence of his country was most brilliant.

We May, But It's Doubtful.

(From the New York Journal.)
The next four years will be a time of wonderful possibilities for the country. We may see peace and prosperity restored to the Philippines. We may get out of our Cuban entanglement with ease. We may continue to enjoy prosperity. We may find a way with dealing with the trusts. We may level the Chinese wall of obsolete protection. If we accomplish all this President McKinley may yet occupy the place in American history which he and his friends like to believe he occupies now.

Saved McKinley From Trouble.

(From the Boston Post.)
There is no question that Mr. Carter saved Mr. McKinley some considerable embarrassment. The President could not have afforded to veto the River and Harbor bill, and to do so would have been to increase the appropriations of the late notoriously extravagant Congress even beyond the figure reached by the "wild train." The gift of a \$5,000 office, the salary to be paid out of one of his appropriations, Senator Carter did not talk to death, is not a lavish price for such service.

The Same Everywhere.

(From the Atlanta Journal.)
The armor plate monopoly in this country has been extending about 150 per cent profit on its product sold to our Government. The German Government finds that it is being bled on the armor plate monopoly. The German Government charges Germany \$10 a ton more for armor plate than the United States Government. The armor plate monopoly is a tough act on both sides of the sea.

Disappointed Pork Seekers.

(From the Philadelphia North American.)
There can be nothing save contempt for the Democrats who, on the promise of reward, abandoned opposition to the Philippine bill. The legislation that was enacted on the Army Appropriation bill at the eleventh hour by the Republican leaders.

Third-Term Ambitions.

(From the Kansas City Star.)
Washington declined a third term, and Grant was unable to obtain one. There are other good reasons besides those, why McKinley should be content with two, and why it would be folly to talk of giving him more.

THE COMMERCE OF CUBA.

Exports and Imports for Eight Months of Last Year.
The Division of Insular Affairs of the War Department has prepared for publication a summary of its regular monthly bulletin, showing the commerce of the Island of Cuba for the eight months ended August 31, 1900. The summary shows that of the total imports during August, 1900—namely, \$3,250,384—\$140,659 was carried in domestic vessels, \$2,111,446 in American vessels, \$751,216 in British vessels, \$5,025 in Dutch vessels, \$55,498 in French vessels, \$397,290 in German vessels, \$195,612 in Norwegian vessels and \$1,540,882 in other foreign vessels.

Of the total exports for the month of August, 1900—namely, \$3,023,020—\$122,028 was carried in domestic vessels, \$2,309,287 in American vessels, \$31,121 in British vessels, \$5,057 in Dutch vessels, \$352,580 in French vessels, \$33,250 in German vessels, \$54,520 in Norwegian vessels, and \$165,763 in other foreign vessels.

The total value of merchandise, gold and silver imported into the island during the eight months ended August 31, 1900, was \$25,265,712, and for the same period of 1899, \$27,419,771, showing an increase in favor of 1900 of \$2,154,059, or 1.8 per cent.

The total imports from European countries for the first eight months of 1899, were \$19,267,712, and for the same period of 1899, \$16,407,951; from Asiatic countries for the first eight months of 1899, \$14,155, and for the same period of 1899, \$10,682; from Africa for the first eight months of 1899, \$882, and for the same period of 1899, \$1,215; from Canada for the first eight months of 1899, \$25,215, and for the same period of 1899, \$15,335; from Mexico for the first eight months of 1899, \$1,718, and for the same period of 1899, \$2,097,932; from Central America for the first eight months of 1899, \$24,525, and for the same period of 1899, \$24,309; from South America for the first eight months of 1899, \$2,225,341, and for the same period of 1899, \$2,252,724; from the West Indies for the first eight months of 1899, \$20,202, and for the same period of 1899, \$20,202.

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AGRICULTURAL YEARBOOK.

This Valuable Publication to Be Issued Late in May.

The Statistician of the Agricultural Department, in speaking of the 1900 "Yearbook" says it will not be ready for distribution before the latter part of May. "Five hundred thousand copies of the 'Yearbook' are printed annually," continues the Statistician, "of which 30,000 copies are allotted to the department, and the remaining 470,000 copies being distributed by members of Congress. Fifteen thousand copies are held for distribution to correspondents of the Division of Statistics and 15,000 copies are assigned for distribution to libraries, scientific societies, agricultural associations, and other public institutions, and to correspondents of other bureaus and divisions of the department. The correspondents on the lists of the Division of Statistics aggregate more than 250,000, and the distribution to correspondents of that division is necessarily restricted to the regular counter and township correspondents and State agents' aids reporting monthly.

"Persons who are not reporting regularly to the Division of Statistics or its agents, or to other bureaus or divisions of the department, should apply to their Congressional representatives for copies of this publication."

"The 'Yearbook' is sent only by registered mail, and in all cases, direct to the person for whom the copies are sent, and not to anyone for redistribution, and only one copy will be supplied to an individual. The large number of orders received and the labor involved in mailing and registering, necessarily cause a delay in the delivery of the copies, and applicants should wait a reasonable time before calling attention to the fact that the requests have not been honored."

"The number of copies referred to above which is available for redistribution by the department, does not ordinarily cover the demand, and of course, requisition must be filed only for the supply lasts. The Statistician realizes that the correspondents of the department, rendering as they do, efficient services for which no compensation can be made, are entitled to every consideration in the distribution of publications; but, at the same time, their attention is called to the fact that the 'Yearbook' allotted to the department is limited in number, and to meet the demands, and that applications for copies of the division's allotment must of necessity be refused."

"State agents' aids should apply to the agents to whom they report, and county and township correspondents should apply direct to the Statistician. This rule should be followed in applying not only for 'Yearbooks' but also for all publications of the department, lists of which are published in the 'Crop Reporter' from time to time."

CURRENT HUMOR.

Wholesale Medical Advice.

(From the Fliegende Blaetter.)
"There's the recipe. Give the boy a teaspoonful three times a day."
"Yes, sir, but I'd like three or four times as much of the medicine; there are a lot of sick children in the village, and I brought this one only as a sample."

On the Special.

(From the Indianapolis Press.)
Everett Reese—What's this 'givin' me about comin' into town by special train?"
Dismal Dawson—Fact, ole friend. The train was sent out special for a load of gravel.

Did Anybody Ever Do That?

(From the Atlantic Globe.)
Some one asks what is it that feeling high prospects and a woman to dig up the bottom bureau drawer, and put it on the parlor mantel.

The Real Thing.

(From the Chicago News.)
The Sutor—Here, on my knees, I place this ring upon your finger. My love goes out to you.
The Coquette—But how do I know it is genuine?
The Sutor—My love is as genuine as the bluish of your cheeks.

Confession Not Necessary.

(From the Chicago Record.)
"Why have humorists never organized into clubs?"
"Because the law doesn't require any man to incriminate himself."

The herald of all pleasure and enjoyment is a glass of Heurich's beer. Marzen, Sauter, and Lager are the most convincing evidence that the best beer is brewed in Heurich's brewery. It only requires one glass to discern the superior qualities of Heurich's. Phone West 34, Arlington Bottling Co., for a case.

\$1.69
For the Famous
Eiseman \$2.00 Hats

For today and tomorrow only—choice of all the new spring shapes and shades for \$1.69 instead of \$2.00.

The saving is really more than appears at first glance—for our \$2.00 hats are the equals of the best shown elsewhere at \$2.50.

Made of fine fur felt—trimmed with pure silk bands and bindings—and in shapes just the same as the "5.00 hatters" show.

For today and tomorrow, \$1.69.

Some new top-coats marked \$10, \$12, and \$15 have just come in from our factory.

Perfect fitting—and \$3 to \$5 less than the same qualities go for elsewhere.

Tans and oxfords—some of them silk-lined.

EISEMAN BROS
Cor. Seventh and E Sts.

Opening of Callisher's
New Optical Department.

In charge of an Expert Graduated Refractionist who will examine your eyes. . . .

FREE OF CHARGE.

Our First Introductory Special.

\$1.00 Gold Filled Frame Eyeglasses or Spectacles Guaranteed to Suit the Eye. **\$1.00**

The frames of these glasses and spectacles are guaranteed for ten years, and we use only the finest lenses. The Spectacles have solid gold bridge and end pieces. Other opticians charge \$2.50 for the same glasses, but it is our endeavor to quote only reasonable prices, so as to gain the reputation of having the most popular optical department in the city.

Oculists' prescriptions carefully filled. Repairing work neatly done.

CALLISHER, the Jeweler,
917 Pennsylvania Avenue N. W.

Spring Opening.

We beg to announce that our complete line of imported and domestic woolsens is now on hand, and that we have perfected ourselves in the art of cutting and shaping gentlemen's clothes to the requirements of this spring's fashions. The patterns are representative of what the best dressed men will wear, and the variety is sufficiently comprehensive to meet all tastes.

In order to relieve the inevitable Easter rush as much as possible we will make special concessions in prices for this week.

THE S. BARNHARTT TAILORING CO.,
528 Twelfth Street N. W.

The Crown Piano.
For Ten Days.
\$1.00

Our regular price for these Glasses is \$1.50, the same as other dealers advertise they charge \$5 for. They are RIMLESS GOLD FILLED MOUNTS with a SOLID GOLD SPRING.

OPPENHEIMER'S,
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DROOP'S Music House,
Steinway and Other Pianos,
925 Pennsylvania Avenue.

54 SET OF TEETH
Including Painless Extraction:
Best Gold Crowns.....\$5.00
Silver Fillings.....\$1.00 and up
Hours, 8:30 to 6 p. m. Sunday, 10 to 4.

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Finest Work. Lowest Prices. 28 Years' Experience. A Postal or Telephone brings Machine to your House. Prompt Service and Reliable Workmanship at small cost.

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